

Preface

Organizing basic data regarding volcanoes, such as active volcano catalogues, is essential for preventing or reducing the impact of volcano disasters, as well as for advancing volcano research. Since its establishment in 1974, the Coordinating Committee for Prediction of Volcanic Eruption (hereafter referred to as "the CCPVE") has, as one of its duties, reviewed activities of volcanoes in Japan and selected active volcanoes. Based on these results, the Japan Meteorological Agency published the *National Catalogue of the Active Volcanoes in Japan* in 1975, and published a revised version in 1984.

After the first edition was published, progress in ancient document analysis and volcanic research such as geological surveys has resulted in the identification of new volcanic activity and the revision of the definition of active volcanoes. These were reflected in the revised *National Catalogue of the Active Volcanoes in Japan (Second Edition)*, published in 1991. In 1996, further partial revisions were made to make the catalogue accessible to a wider range of readers, and the catalogue was made available for public purchase.

In January 2003, the CCPVE adopted the internationally accepted definition of active volcanoes as "volcanoes which have erupted within the past 10,000 years, and/or volcanoes with current fumarolic activity". Based on this new definition, they selected active volcanoes again, publishing the *National Catalogue of the Active Volcanoes in Japan (Third Edition)* in 2005.

In recent years, society has taken an increased interest in volcano disaster prevention, and the Japan Meteorological Agency has worked together with local governments to consider volcano disaster prevention measures. Since December 2007, they began employing Volcanic Alert Levels, which are directly tied to disaster prevention measures, and have announced both eruption alerts and eruption forecasts. In February 2009, the CCPVE working group selected 47 volcanoes which require monitoring and observation system enhancements, and began making improvements to these monitoring and observation systems. In June 2011, two new active volcanoes were added.

This catalogue is compiled by improving disaster prevention related content, and reflecting new discoveries, reflecting the changes in the areas surrounding these active volcanoes.

The members of the CCPVE, and volcanologists from around the country, have been of tremendous assistance in the compilation of this catalogue, both through the materials they have supplied, and through their advice and guidance. The Asia Air Survey Co., Ltd. has also assisted us with the collection and analysis of materials, as well as editing. We wish to express our gratitude for all the assistance and support we have been given. Responsibility for any errors or deficiencies in this catalogue lies entirely with the Seismological and Volcanological Department, Volcanological Division, Japan Meteorological Agency, and Volcanological Society of Japan.

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